

**Memorandum of the Meeting
Regular Study Session
Twenty-Sixth Town Council of Highland
Monday, March 03, 2008**

The regular study session of the Twenty-Sixth Town Council of the Town of Highland was convened at the regular place, the Highland Municipal, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, Indiana, in the plenary meeting room on Monday, March 03, 2008 at the standing time of 7:00 o'clock p.m.

Roll Call: Mark A. Herak, Dan Vassar, Brian Novak, Konnie Kuiper, and Bernie Zemen were present. The Clerk-Treasurer Michael W. Griffin was present to memorialize the proceedings. A quorum was attained. The meeting opened with the group.

Also present:

Lauren Wilson and Judy Vaughn of the Special Events Advisory Council; and Dan Stombaugh of the Town Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners were also present.

General Substance of Matters Discussed

1. Ms. Judy Vaughn and the Town discussed the current status and progress related to the Special Events Advisory Committee. The discussion included reporting on the resignation of Shelly Mayden, the election of Pat Popa as President. Ms. Vaughn renewed her recommendation that Sheila Watkins be considered for appointment to the committee. It was further noted that Parks and Recreation Superintendent was in attendance at the recent organizing meeting. It was further discussed that many committee assignments were made for Independence Day.

Ms. Vaughn discussed her impressions that the current body is a group of volunteers. The discussion included concerns expressed by some that the seven-member size for the committee may be insufficient to support the needs of the events.

The Council and those present discussed the impressions from a recent study session in which some expressed the view that greater size was needed for volunteers and whether or not these volunteers should also have a role in governance or a vote.

Councilor Kuiper departed at this time.

Mrs. Vaughn urged that a larger body of committees or volunteers can be appointed by the current body. Mrs. Vaughn urged that the current construct for governance, being a body of seven.

Some members of the council discussed concerns about relying on any volunteers to be responsible for security, or for intervening in altercations or other exigencies.

The discussion included whether or not there should be paid ticket booth workers.

There was no further guidance regarding the status of the existing ordinance or the proposed draft ordinance regarding the Special Events Advisory Committee.

2. The Town Council discussed with Dawn Stombaugh of Sunshine Gardens, the status of the landscaping contract held by her to perform landscaping and care in the old downtown area and near the several welcome signs throughout Town. Ms. Stombaugh inquired about the status of the agreement and whether or not there was interest in renewing it for FY 2008. Ms. Stombaugh expressed her willingness to provide these services.

It was noted that the terms of the previous agreement was to compensate Ms. Stombaugh at \$20 per hour and for laborers to be paid at \$15 per hour. Further the agreement was capped at \$25,000. Ms. Stombaugh noted that under the terms of the new agreement, she would be substituted for by her son to perform in her supervising role from time to time. In those instances where she is still supervising, she would wish to be compensated at the \$20 hourly rate. In those instances where her son was working in her role, she would that he would be compensated at the \$20 rate.

There was no further discussion on the matter.

3. The Town Council discussed standing vacancies to the Redevelopment Commission, the Metropolitan Police Commission and the Special Events Advisory Committee. The Town Council discussed the provisions related to partisan affiliation related to appointments as set forth in IC 36-1-8-10. The Clerk-Treasurer also presented a proposed draft policy related to enrolling a pool of persons interested in various boards and commissions. With the policy was a draft application as well. The matter was taken under advisement.
4. The Clerk-Treasurer reported an inquiry by Leigh Morris, the chair of the Regional Development Authority and Executive Director of the Indiana Toll Road, in which he requested a meeting with the proper persons regarding input he is seeking on the RDA and the Toll road. The Town council expressed willingness to meet with him during a study session, perhaps to be scheduled during the March 17, 2008 stand study session.
5. The Clerk-Treasurer presented a brief report on the status of the "Meet and Confer" petition and the steps necessary by the employer. (Confer IC 36-8-22). A petition was filed by at least 30% of the sworn officers on January 27, 2008 to consider conducting an election regarding the desire and selection of an employee organization to exclusively represent police officers for the purposes of issues related to work place rules, compensation and conditions. The election would under the law need to be conducted by the employer by March 27, 2008. It was noted that the National Police Officers Association, affiliated with the AFL-CIO, had expressed initial interest in being considered along with the local Fraternal Order of Police, but declined based upon the size of the cover force being below 50.

6. The Town Council discussed development regarding the determination by the Board of Sanitary Commissioners to employ a second source power feed as power back-up in one of its pump stations rather than purchasing a back-up generator. The discussion included whether or not the Town Council would accede to this alternative or whether a generator would be preferable. It was noted that the Town Council was concerned about the equality of protection effectiveness between the generator and the alternative switching power source. The discussion included an acknowledgement that some members of the Town Council in the course of the recent campaign made representations regarding the level of protection against storm events, including generators being installed at all pump stations.

The discussion included a suggestion that some effort be made to communicate the concerns of the Council to the Board of Sanitary Commissioners at its next meeting.

7. The Town Council discussed briefly the status of a proposed private meeting with residents along Main Street and Indianapolis Boulevard and two representatives of the redevelopment commission, one representative of the economic development commission and perhaps two members of the Town council about the proposed economic development area. It was noted that the meeting was slated for 11 March 2008. A time was not discussed.

There were no further discussions or any further matters before the Town Council. The regular study session of the Twenty-Sixth Town Council of Highland of **Monday, March 03, 2008** was adjourned at 8:59 o'clock p.m.

Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/CMC/CPFA
Clerk-Treasurer